



“He will again have compassion on us..” - Micah 7:19a

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* Congregation Stands

THEME OF THE DAY

"But I had hoped." These are four of the saddest words in the English language. Micah knows—but he also knows about a hope that never fails. His name? Jesus!

OPENING HYMN

On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry

LSB 344, vs. 1, 2

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the

that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
way for God with - in, And let us all our

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.

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***INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the highest of the mountains.

C Then many nations will say—

P "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob."

C "That he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

P They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.

C Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

P God's fierce judgment—

C Gives way to final grace!

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C the light no darkness can overcome.

P Let Your light scatter the darkness

C and illumine Your Church.

***HYMN**

We Light the Advent Candle

vs. 4

4 We light the Ad - vent can - dle And share the won - drous
Word. With love, we tell of Je - sus Till
all a - round have heard. God's love is for each
na - tion Through - out His whole cre - a - tion. We
wait with grow - ing light Till God makes all things right!

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***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P Lord God, merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit and deliver us from all evil. Open our eyes so we see our sin and selfishness. Inspire our repentance so we return to you.

C Amen.

P Returning to our gracious Lord, let us confess our sins.

Silence for reflection and confession

P Merciful Father,

C We confess that we do not live according to your Word and instead, we follow gossip and slander, pride and pretense. We have become smug and self-righteous. Bring us out of our sin and clothe us with the garments of salvation, won for us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love! Out of that love he sent Jesus to shed his blood for us. By faith we stand forgiven, restored and empowered to live new lives. Therefore, we proclaim to each other—

C Christ redeems you and restores you. Christ loves you and forgives you!

P God's fierce judgment—

C Gives way to final grace!

***HYMN**

On Jordan's Bank The Baptist's Cry

LSB 344, vs. 5



△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

***SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come and help us by your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by your grace and mercy; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 7:18–20

¹⁸Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?

He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.

¹⁹He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities under foot.

You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.

²⁰You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 89:1–5; antiphon: v. 8

¹I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

²For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

³You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:

⁴I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.”

⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

EPISTLE

Romans 15:8–13

⁸For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,
and sing to your name.”

¹⁰And again it is said,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples extol him.”

¹²And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:46–55

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁶And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

⁵⁰And his mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

⁵²he has brought down the mighty from their thrones

and exalted those of humble estate;

⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,

and the rich he has sent empty away.

⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers,

to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

***NICENE CREED** —*See sanctuary projection*

SERMON

Hope

HYMN

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

LSB 380 vs. 1, 3



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



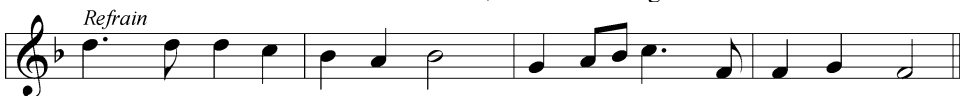
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

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OFFERING

Place your gift in the plates as you exit or give online at www.trinityloneoak.org/giving

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Following each petition:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

*PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***LORD'S PRAYER**—*See sanctuary projection*

*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

*POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

*BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*BENEDICTION

P No god is like our God!

C **The Father, Son and Holy Spirit!**

P Pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression.

C **He does not stay angry forever—**

P Because he delights in steadfast love.

C **He casts our sin into the depths of the sea.**

P God's fierce judgment—

C **Gives way to final grace!**

HYMN TO DEPART

Prepare the Royal Highway

LSB 343, vs. 1, 4



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.



Christmas Worship

December 24 | 3:30pm
Christmas Eve Family Worship

December 24 | 7:00pm and live stream at www.trinityloneoak.org
Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion

December 25 | 9:00am
Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion



Worship Sunday, Dec 27 | 9:00am and livestream at www.trinityloneoak.org
Note there is one worship service, adult Bible study, and no Sunday school Sunday, Dec 27, 2020.

Serving our Lord this week

		December 20, 2020	9:00am Sun. December 29, 2020
Musician		Diane Streich	Marsha Workman
Cantor		Andy Koch	Dave Workman
Altar Guild		Karen Turnmire and Nancy Strand	Karen Turnmire and Nancy Strand
Elder(s)	8am	Andy Olson	9:00am
	10:30am	Kurt Vallin	Jim Nicklas
Reader	8am	Peter Olsen	9:00am
	10:30am	Kurt Vallin	Jon Peterson
Usher Team	8am	Brian Nack	9:00am
	10:30am	Open	Layne Streich/Lance Halverson
Greeter(s)	8am	Carolyn Wesling	9:00am
	10:30am	Open	Karen Turnmire
Acolyte	8am	Selma Olsen	9:00am
	10:30am	Open	Open
Projection	8am	Peter Olsen	9:00am
	10:30am	Open	Jean Peterson
Cleaner	8am	Open	9:00am
	10:30am	Open	Open



Giving Tree

Thanks to everyone who gave so generously to the three families in need, filling the wish list items and brightening their Christmas!



Christmas bags for TLO members

Pick up a prepared bag(s) in the narthex and deliver it to the address on the bag. You will deliver Christmas goodies and smiles while receiving much more in return.



Christmas CD's

We have a few Christmas CD from the TLO choir in the 70's and 80's. Likely you know many of the singers! First come first served; see Jean to get a copy.



TLO School Concerts

TLO Preschool and K-8 concerts were prerecorded. Contact the school office if you'd like the link to these precious concerts!

COMING UP THIS WEEK – December 20, 2020 — December 27, 2020**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

Sun	8:00am	Worship with Holy Communion in sanctuary
	9:15am	Education Hour for all ages; meet in gym
	10:30am	Worship with Holy Communion in sanctuary
		worship online at www.trinityloneoak.org
Mon	No school—Christmas Break—School resumes January 4, 2021	
Mon	10:00am	Adult Bible study
Tue	7:00pm	Church Council
Wed	6:30am	Men's Bible study
	3:30pm	Midweek confirmation
Thur	3:30pm	Christmas Eve Family Worship
	7:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion
Fri	9:00am	Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS		
Sun	9:00am	Worship in sanctuary
	10:00am	Adult Bible study; no Sunday school
		worship online at www.trinityloneoak.org

WEEKLY DEPOSIT: December 13, 2020

General Fund Income:			
	Current and Mission Weekly Offering	\$	7,902.97
(Our Weekly Offering budget is \$7,692.00 per week)			
	Building Reserve Fund	\$	380.00
(Our Weekly Offering budget is \$635.00 per week)			
	Sunday school	\$	3.00
	1883 School Annual Fund	\$	830.00
	Thrivent Choice to 1883 School Annual Fund	\$	212.00
	Acorn Scholarship Fund	\$	4,427.00
	Tuition	\$	5,483.49
	Church and school fees	\$	3,038.71
	Subtotal General Fund Income	\$	22,277.17
Special Purpose Income (not available for general fund spending)			
	YTF2	\$	1,175.00
	YI Stamps through LCEF	\$	191.00
	Subtotal Special Fund Income	\$	1,366.00

Remember in Prayer

Richard and Corrine, Jenna Arnold's dad and step mom. Corrine receives low level chemo every two weeks making her ill. Family requests continued prayers for healing and comfort.

Daryl Buecksler, recovering from hip surgery

Eddie Burdick, Pam's husband, overall health in dealing with on-going concerns

Rich Cliff, recovering from eye surgery

Ginny Flo, having surgery December 17

Dan Jones, brother of David Jones and Julie Casby, hospitalized and very ill

Cory Kroonblawd - completing final year of pastoral education at CTS - Ft. Wayne, IN

Joseph Labhart (Flannery's grandson) ongoing health concerns

Dan Linse recovering from heart surgery

Brian Motz - prayers for continued healing

Marvin Rahn for strength and good health while living at Brookdale in Eagan

Billy D. Swain, ongoing health concerns.

Char Timm; prayers for sight to return to her left eye

Robert Vail, brother of Barbara, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and working through treatment

Glenn Vierling, hospitalized with serious complications from covid

Diane Vierling, home from the hospital and struggling with full recovery from covid

Laverne Ziebell, prayers requested as he works through ongoing health problems



Fa La La Lights! Scavenger Hunt

Jesus said, *"I am the Light of the World."* John 8:12. This year has been filled with many challenges. Yet into this sin-darkened world Jesus was born to bring salvation. As we celebrate the real Light of Christmas, Jesus Christ, TLO Sunday School proved *A Christmas Scavenger Hunt Event* to help families experience the joy of the birth of our Savior. Jesus, the True Light, shines in the darkness and overcomes it. Jesus lights up our hearts and lives with His love, forgiveness, joy and peace! May your joy be full as you celebrate the birth of Christ.



For YOU!

Pick up a 2021 calendar, Portals of Prayer for Jan-March, winter My Devotions and offering envelopes in the narthex.



Birthdays this week

Dec 20 Galata Benya, Debra Reinke

Dec 24 Ben Swenson

Dec 25 Regan Wallace



Every One His Witness Study Group

Starts January 10, 2021 | 9:15am | TLO Gym

“ Every baptized Christian is a “spiritual priest” called to bear witness to Christ in the context of his/her vocations in life. Here is the first major Lutheran resource to equip the saints to do just that. The core paradigm for sharing Christ and inviting people to church is simple and memorable. The modules directed at specific and diverse individuals are marvelous. I’ve taken the core course myself.

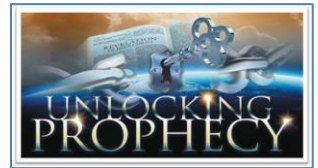
The low-pressure, natural approach to folks who need Christ is spot on. Let’s go (Mark 1:38)! — Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. *To ensure TLO has plenty materials, please sign up for the class through the church office or our website.*

Biblical Prophecy: Are We Living in the Last Days?

Pastor Lessing, Seminar Leader

Saturday, January 16 | 9am-3pm | in person AND via zoom

In the midst of ongoing terrorism and chaos, pandemics and crazy politics, millions of people are looking for answers to so many questions. Questions will be answered and comfort and hope in Christ will abound. Invite your friends! Register to attend in person or zoom at trinityloneoak.org or through the church office.



A NEW YEAR! A NEW YOU!

January 6–February 10, 2021 | 6:30pm | via Zoom

Begin the new year with a new you! In his Small Catechism Martin Luther writes this about baptism. “It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new person should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.” In baptism God gives a new you. In this Bible Study we will discuss these topics:

- **Balancing** our New Life
- A New **Heart**
- A New **Mind**
- New **Relationships**
- A New **Body**

St. Paul writes in Romans 6:4, “We were buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” Plan now to rediscover a new you for a new year. Sign up today for the Zoom class led by Pastor Lessing!